



# Intelligent Transportation Systems Operational Testing Program to Mitigate Congestion

## **What It Is**

In May 2006, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced its National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's Transportation Network (the Congestion Initiative), a bold and comprehensive national program to reduce congestion on the Nation's roads, rails, runways and waterways. The Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Operational Testing to Mitigate Congestion (ITS-OTMC) Program is a part of the comprehensive Congestion Initiative. The overall objective of the ITS-OTMC Program is to facilitate the operational testing and evaluation of innovative and aggressive congestion reduction strategies incorporating ITS technologies that can demonstrate measurable reductions in congestion levels in the deployment areas.

## **Current Status**

The Research and Innovative Technology Administration released the ITS-OTMC Federal Register notice on December 18, 2006 and released a companion Request For Applications on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), soliciting proposals from metropolitan areas seeking to participate in the ITS-OTMC Program. Applications are due on April 30, 2007. (Funding Opportunity Number DTFH61-07-RA-00111)

USDOT anticipates that up to \$100 million will be made available for awards resulting from this solicitation, subject to the number of applications received. The Department anticipates making one to five awards resulting from this solicitation, with award values ranging from \$10 million to \$100 million for the three-year period of performance. However, USDOT may choose to fund projects proposed at lesser values and/or of shorter performance durations, if such projects demonstrate significant operational testing value and impact on measurable congestion reduction.

## **The Year Ahead**

This ITS-OTMC solicitation is one of three solicitations being issued separately by the Department in connection with the Congestion Initiative. The other two solicitations, also with a due date of April 30, 2007, are:

1. *Solicitation of Applications for Urban Partnerships as Part of the Congestion Initiative.*
2. *Solicitation of Applications to the Value Pricing Pilot (VPP) Program.*

The Department anticipates announcing the selected Urban Partners, as well as recipients of awards for the ITS-OTMC and VPP program by August 8, 2007.

For more information on each of the solicitations, please visit USDOT's Congestion Initiative website at [www.fightgridlocknow.gov](http://www.fightgridlocknow.gov) or the ITS program's website at [www.its.dot.gov](http://www.its.dot.gov).